Re: SEC Information

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Dear SEC colleagues: In response to Senator Range's latest 11th-hour message, I offer the following brief reply: (a) Senator Range states that I did not explicitly address items in his January 25th memo. That's correct. The agenda for the SEC meeting was already full. Instead, I proposed that a special meeting be scheduled that would be devoted *entirely* to that topic. (b) Since Senator Range's most recent memo of Sunday, January 25, was sent at 11:30 PM (i.e., nearly 11 hours after the deadline for receipt of reports by the Senate Secretary Collier), I decided that my Chair's report needed to be updated, and did so at the SEC meeting. That is how I introduced it after inviting Senator Range to offer any further explanation of his latest memo (that I distributed to everyone prior to reading my statement). His reply was that his memo was "self-explanatory". I then offered my general concerns, and requested that the SEC needed a special session to evaluate them. (c) Senator Range claims that all of his statements (in all of his memos) are "facts". That is what the special meeting during the week of February 9 will assess. I believe that there is ample reason to suspect that an objective reading of the January 25th memo (and others) may show that some of his facts are *not* factual at all, and may, in some instances, have been demonstrably misleading. (d) When we agreed that the prepared comments to my updated Chair's Report would not become part of the official Minutes, it became necessary to provide a copy of written comments to all SEC members, not just Senator Range, since those comments will necessarily be a component of the special SEC meeting during the week of February 9. (e) Senator Range's assurances that his perspectives on the matter of the WSS/SOC bill are irrefutably correct is a theme that appears throughout his many documents. Here again, we can see whether that view will bear close, objective scrutiny. These (and other) concerns will be addressed at the special meeting of the SEC that we agreed to at yesterday's meeting. I genuinely look forward to this discussion. It is my hope that a consensus can be found during that meeting (as expressed at yesterday's meeting by Eric Lifshin). The University Senate has the potential to perform with even greater effectiveness and efficiency than it did in Fall 2008. There are many important matters that deserve our serious attention, instead of our being frequently pulled off-task to deal with issues of comparatively little consequence. Best regards, John -- John W. Delano, Ph.D. Distinguished Teaching Professor Chair, 2008-2009 University Senate Associate Director, New York Center for Astrobiology (NASA) Earth Science 313 Dept. of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences The University at Albany (SUNY) Albany, NY 12222 (518) 442-4479 http://www.atmos.albany.edu/index.php?d=faculty_view&facultyLink=delano > Dear SEC Colleagues, > > In reference to the “Text read by Senate Chair Delano” at yesterday’s SEC > meeting, and the "Note appended by Chair Delano" added to the text which > John asked Gail to send out this afternoon: > > A) The “text” was introduced by Chair Delano as a “New Agenda Item” after > we were done with all council/committee reports, without any vote by the > SEC. It was not part of the chair’s report. Usually, introduction of new > items at a meeting require a vote of the assembly whether it wishes to > consider the matter. Furthermore, I did not “request” that this item be > “distributed”. I simply asked the chair – after he had read his statement > and had instructed that it become part of the official minutes – for an > advance copy of his text, so I wouldn’t have to wait until approval of the > minutes some time in the future. > > B) I do not understand at all the reasons for Chair Delano’s strong > accusations. His charges are not substantiated by any evidence. The > charges are simply his personal reaction regarding factual matters I put > in writing and circulated to appropriate individuals. The items discussed > in my January 25, 2009 letter deal with substantive matters regarding > curricula, degree

requirements, and quality and integrity of academic > programs. They are fully documented in earlier correspondence to SUNY > Provost Palm that was copied to senior leaders of the SUNY Faculty Senate. > Instead of responding to the substance of my letter in a professional > manner, the charges made by Chair Delano at yesterday's meeting and > distributed today are a totally inappropriate personal attack. > > I look forward to a meeting with the SEC and, if the SEC so desires, with > the full senate, to discuss these matters fully. > > Thank you, > > Michael > >> >> >> >> Dear SEC Members, >> >> >> >> I have been asked by Senate Chair Delano to forward the following two >> >> documents to you from yesterday's meeting. The first is the memo from >> >> Senator Michael Range to Elizabeth L. Bringsjord at SUNY Administration. >> >> The second document includes the prepared comments that were read >> >> by Chair Delano during the SEC meeting. >> >> >> >> In response to questions raised at yesterday's SEC meeting about the >> >> interviews of Presidential Candidates, Provost Phillips has provided us >> >> with the following information: The web evaluation for each >> candidate >> >> will be available for 24 hours (only) after his/her interview. >> Therefore, >> >> SEC members should register their own impressions in these forms as >> >> they go. An "SEC summary" would need to be completed by >> >> Friday, February 6, at 9:00 AM (if submitted online) or by Friday noon >> >> (if submitted by email). >> >> >> >> A meeting of SEC members to develop a consensus document has been >> >> scheduled for Thursday, February 5, in UNH 306 from 3:00-5:30 PM. >> >> >> >> Regards, >> >> Gail >> >> >> >> >> >> Gail Cameron >> >> University Senate >> >> UNH 302 >> >> >> >> (518) 956-8026 (PH) >> >> (518) 956-8022 (FX) >> >> > > > > > >